

gay community news

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The Gay Weekly 35¢

Harry Allard & The Storyteller's Art



From The Stupids Step Out, Artwork by James Marshall

"Bath time!" said Mrs. Stupid.
"Everyone into the tub," ordered Mr. Stupid.
"But where's the water?" asked Petunia.
"Don't be stupid," said Stanley. "If we fill the tub, our clothes will get wet."

Sally Piano & Oscar Wilde Reviews Houston Women's Conference, p. 1

Feminist Issues Pass Overwhelmingly

Houston Conference Approves Lesbian Rights

By Jane R. Marlowe

HOUSTON, Texas — Resolutions favoring lesbian rights, the Equal Rights Amendment, and a host of other feminist issues passed overwhelmingly at the International Women's Year Conference held the weekend of Nov. 18-20 in Houston. The conference, which was attended by more than 2,000 women, was described by National IWY Commission presiding officer Bella Abzug as "the most diverse meeting of American women ever held in this country." Although 15,000 anti-feminist women demonstrated in Houston during the weekend, there were no disruptions at the conference itself.

The meeting was originally conceived in 1975, with the U.S. Congress providing \$5 million in funding. Delegates to the Houston conference were elected at individual state conferences. The state conferences also drew up a 26-point *National Plan of Action* that would "identify the barriers that prevent women from participating fully and equally in all aspects of national life" and find ways to remove them. Lesbian rights was approved at 30 of the 50 state meetings and thus qualified to be part of the *Plan of Action*.

Five of the 26 resolutions voted on at Houston were considered to be controversial, high-pressure issues. These included endorsement of the ERA, a proposal for federally funded child care programs, abortion rights, support of lesbian rights, and a demand



Photo by Sandy Steingard

Betty Friedan

that a cabinet-level women's department be established by Jimmy Carter.

Because of the disturbances caused at many state conferences by right-wing groups such as the John Birch Society and the Ku Klux Klan, some disruption at the national meeting was expected. However, there were no major altercations, and many delegates were surprised by the spirit of solidarity and sisterhood that prevailed. The main problems were a result of waiting in outrageously long lines at hotels and rest rooms, and, to some extent, the

complaints of conservative factions which felt that they had not been allowed to properly air their views.

All of the items in the Plan passed, except for the one recommending that the President establish a cabinet-level position to deal with women's issues.

The lesbian rights issue was a highly volatile one, and it was feared that a split on this issue would detract from the support of other major issues, especially the ERA. Jean O'Leary, the only avowed lesbian on the IWY Commission, was worried about the passage of this resolution: "If it looks like we won't get to it, we may amend other resolutions, like employment, to include lesbian rights questions," she said before the vote.

Betty Friedan, a founder of the modern women's movement, strongly disagreed with this. "Realistically," she said, "there is only one issue for women this year and that's the Equal Rights Amendment. Any group that puts their issue ahead of that is playing right in the hands of the right wing. I think everything else is subsidiary. We can't quibble at this point."

However, Friedan acted to help alleviate this situation by making a speech urging the convention to pass the lesbian rights resolution. This speech made a great impact. She said, "As a woman who has perhaps loved men too well, I have had trouble on this issue. This issue has divided us too long. I believe we should help the lesbians be protected in their civil rights."

Three Massachusetts women who

attended the conference, Leslie Cagan, Barbara Smith, and Diane DeMilio, shared their impressions at a news conference after returning from Houston. They felt that Friedman's convincing argument was very inspirational, and that many women finally felt that it was in the interest of all women to support lesbians.

Smith felt that a major point was that, for the first time, women who had never met any gay women were seeing that they really weren't different. Cagan added that besides meeting lesbians in their delegations, these women were getting the chance to interact with them on a more social level, dining and standing in lines together.

They said that the mood on the floor was extremely tense and volatile when the sexual preference resolution was being debated. According to DeMilio, "There was a lot of anticipation. We knew that the controversial issues were at the end, and when it was close to a sexual preference vote, we wondered if people who had been voting pro-Plan would vote against this issue." She also mentioned some apprehension about the lesbian mother issue, fearing that the vote might be affected by delegates who felt that sexual preference is an individual choice, but lesbians should not be able to raise children. These fears did not materialize, as the vote overwhelmingly favored gay rights.

Sentiments surrounding the issue

Continued on page 7

Accusations Against Koch 'Groundless,' City Report Says

NEW YORK — Reports which circulated in the last days of the city's mayoral campaign claiming that Democratic nominee Rep. Edward I. Koch had been beaten up by a homosexual lover but had declined to press charges have been found groundless by the city's Department of Investigation. The probe by Investigation Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta was made at the request of Mayor-Elect Koch.

The rumors became public knowledge just before the vote when it was revealed that the Associated Press had prepared an article, detailing but not substantiating the charges. The article was never released. Koch supporters asserted that aides to Liberal Party mayoral candidate Mario Cuomo were behind a campaign to "smear" Koch by spreading rumors that he was gay. Additional reports stated that Police Patrolmen's Benevolent Association President Samuel DiMilia had similar information about Koch. DeMilia later denied that he ever had such information or had threatened to use it.

After taking sworn testimony from witnesses, including DeMilia, and examining relevant documents, the Investigations Department concluded, "Although it was reported that at one time Mr. DeMilia had allegedly received information alleging that Mr. Koch had not pursued a criminal complaint, all

of the evidence, including the testimony of Mr. DiMilia himself, establishes that Mr. DiMilia does not now have nor did he ever have any evidence to substantiate such information.

"Furthermore, there is no evidence whatsoever that Mr. Koch had ever refused to pursue any criminal case." The report noted that, after a search of

65,000 police records, the only case in which Koch had been a complainant was a criminal harassment case in 1972. At that time, a panhandler had accosted Koch in Washington Square Park and demanded money. The man was found guilty and fined \$50.

A spokesperson for the Mayor-Elect said that Koch "considered the matter

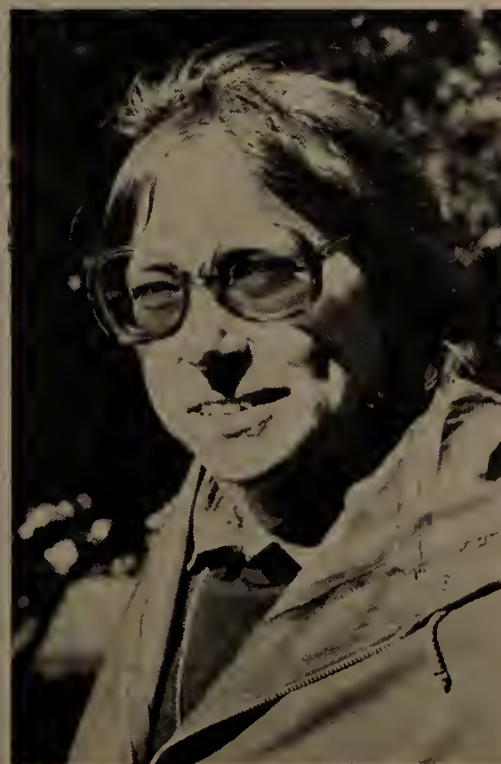
closed." "I felt that the seriousness of the charges and rumors raised during the campaign warranted a full investigation. Mr. Scoppetta has made that investigation and found there is absolutely no truth to the charges and rumors," said the aide, quoting Koch.

Harvard Law Teach-In Critical of Burger Court

By Gordon Gottlieb

The Supreme Court violates the separation of church and state when it bases its anti-gay decisions on Biblical texts, Rev. Marge Ragona told 200 law students assembled to protest Chief Justice Warren Burger's planned appearance at Harvard Law School Nov. 17. "It is tragic that our folklore and mythology still affect our lives 3,000 years later . . . All of us must continue to protest—in the courts and in the streets," she stated.

The newly appointed minister of Providence's Metropolitan Community Church was one of four speakers participating in the anti-Burger Court teach-in. Burger, who was to have judged a student-run moot court case, decided not to attend at the last minute, due to a bad back. The teach-in went on as planned, according to moderator Margaret Montoya, since "we are here to address the policies of the Burger Court and not to focus on the



Rev. Marge Ragona

personalities."

The teach-in was co-sponsored by 16 political organizations, including the National Lawyers Guild, the Black and Chicano Law Student Associations and the Ad Hoc Committee of Gay Law Students. Other speakers included the General Counsel of the National Council of Black Students who denounced the Burger Court as "racist to the core and insensitive to the needs of poor and black people."

Meanwhile, an open letter strongly critical of the policies of the Burger Court was signed by 467 members of the Harvard Law School community. The signers of the letter expressed their "outrage at the consistent opposition the Supreme Court under Chief Justice Burger has shown towards the advancement of human rights. The Court has responded with callous indifference to the urgent claims of those seeking justice through the legal system."

news notes

BRIGGS BOMB PLOT FOILED

LOS ANGELES — Five persons have been arrested in Los Angeles and Houston in connection with an alleged plot to bomb the office of California State Senator John Briggs. One of the men arrested, Clayton Van Lydegraf, was indentified by the FBI a the head of the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, the above-ground faction of the Weather Underground. Van Lydegraf was accused of attempting to recruit people to join the group, whose reported objectives were the assassination of public figures and the bombing of public buildings.

Sen. Briggs is one of the principal opponents of gay rights in California. He had introduced a state-wide initiative to permit school boards to fire gay teachers, but the initiative was withdrawn last month because of the threat of a lawsuit. However, none of the five people arrested have been visible in California gay politics and it is not known if Briggs' anti-gay activities provided the motivation for the alleged plan.

BACKING FROM THE BISHOP

SAN FRANCISCO — The Right Rev. C. Kilmer Myers, Episcopal Bishop of California, has endorsed the ordination of women and homosexuals to the priesthood, *The Sentinel* reports. In a statement to the 128th Episcopal Convention, Myers stated, "To be a Christian is to be radically human. The model for humanness is Jesus. I know many homosexuals who are radically human. To desert them would be a desertion."

The Bishop, who has re-licensed openly lesbian Episcopal priest, Mary Ellen Barrett, noted that "to bury one's self in the question of the priest's homosexuality and sexuality is to lose sight of the true meaning of the church."

ENGLAND'S BRYANT

LONDON, ENGLAND — Anti-pornography crusader Mary Whitehouse, who successfully brought London's *Gay News* to trial recently on charges of "blasphemy," is emerging as Englon'd's answer to Anita Bryant. In a recent speech Whitehouse asserted that the gay movement is one of 40 "strategies" a Communist plot to "destroy Western Civilization." The plon, she cloimed, was to "present homosexual degeneracy as normal and healthy."

In another address, Whitehouse used the same strategy that Bryant used so successfully in Dade County — to link homosexuals with child molestation and "recruitment." "I believe that homosexual relationships are wrong . . . the same as I believe that lustful use of children in pornographic magazines is wrong." The Goy News reported her as soying "The fact that whenever they can, homosexuals take their leaflets and go into the school and try and influence children is also wrong. . ."

A poll by the right-wing London newspaper *The Daily Mail*, listed Whitehouse as one of the ten "most obnoxious" public personalities.

FILM BENEFIT

NEW HAVEN, CONN. — "In the Best Interests of the Children," a film about lesbian mothers, will be shown to benefit the Connecticut Gay Task Force's Educational and Legal Defense Fund. The showing will take place on Sunday, December 4, at the Women's Center, 148 Orange Street, New Haven. Admission is \$2 and there will be a roundtable discussion after the film.

BRYANT TO WICHITA

WICHITA, Kan. — Singer and anti-gay crusader Anita Bryant is scheduled to come to Wichita on Dec. 6 to participate in the "Revive America Crusade." The visit would be Bryant's second to Wichita since the city council passed a gay rights ordinance on Sept. 17. Bryant stopped at the Wichita airport last month to confer with members of "Concerned Citizens for Community Standards," a group which has launched a petition drive to repeal the ordinance. "My heart's desire is to do what I can to stand against sin in this country," Bryant said at that time.

Bryant is scheduled to be the featured speaker at the December rally. Although the Crusade will not focus exclusively on the issue of homosexuality, "the subject will be one of the items discussed," said rally organizer Cecil Todd.



MCC AT MID-WEEK

BOSTON — Starting Wednesday, November 30, at 8PM there will be a mid-week service at Boston's Metropolitan Community Church. The service is described as "informal, with a time of praise to the Lord, sharing the word, testimonies, small prayer groups and plenty of spirited singing." Services are held at the Old West Church, 131 Cambridge Street, Boston.

'KIDNAPPING' DROPPED

BATON ROUGE, LA. — Kidnapping charges against Baton Rouge gay activist Huey Beverly have been dismissed after Beverly charged that the charges had been pressed to embarrass him because of his gay rights advocacy. Beverly was charged with kidnapping, aggravated assault, and simple battery, in the case of the alleged abduction of a 17 year old hitchhiker.

"These bogus charges were used to discredit, embarrass, humiliate, and 'criminalize' me," Beverly told Houston's *Montrose Star*. Beverly also claimed that there was "no bona-fide complainant," and labelled the young man was "a stooge and pimp of the police and police department."

Beverly's attorney had originally advised him to plead guilty and accept probation. However, Beverly then fired his attorney and acted as his own counsel. In the end, the complainant in the case dropped all charges.

SUPPORTIVE LESBIAN RAP

BOSTON — A support group for lesbians dealing with separation, loneliness, holiday blues, and the exploration of new options will meet for seven Mondays, starting November 28. The group meets from 7-9PM at Janus House, 21 Bay Street, Cambridge. Donation is \$1 and coffee and cookies are served. For more information, call Janus House at 661-2537, and leave a message for Gail.

COMING OUT RAP

BOSTON — The CLEARSPACE basic introductory course 'Coming Out', open to any lesbian woman or gay man, is being conducted on November 28, December 5, 12, 19 from 7:30-9:30 PM at 126 Beacon Street, 3rd fl. Boston. This 4 week course, co-sponsored by the Emerson College Homophile Organization and CLEARSPACE, the projected Gay Community Center, is available without charge although free will donations are encouraged.

WILL YOU SEE?

TIME THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

She has received death threats — and been socked in the face with a banana cream pie. When she showed up in Monhattan to tape on appearance for the *Today* show, NBC was so worried for her safety that guards spirited her out of the building after the performance. She called off a press conference at the nearby Hilton Hotel because of warnings that hostile demonstrators would be in the streets. Appearing in St. Petersburg, Fla., last week, she had to change hotels for security reasons. The victim is Singer Anita Bryant, 37; her tormentors are radical gay activists, mostly male; and their fight, a bitter one from the beginning, has taken an ugly turn. . .

Bryant's agent and husband Bob Green says, her take from show business has dropped by 70% since the Dade County election. That is difficult to confirm, as is Bryant's charge that "conventions have been totally inhibited from booking us." Bryant still performs around the country, singing and speaking at conventions, church meetings and conservative get-togethers. Sometimes she seems to be benefiting from the furor. When she was picketed in St. Petersburg last week, logging ticket sales perked up; she played to a full house of 2,000, and 200 people

were turned away. She acknowledges that the fight has hyped sales of her eighth book, *The Anita Bryant Story*, in which she stresses, in evangelical terms, her personal relationship with God. She also writes: "I don't hate homosexuals, I pray for them."

Bryant claims that the homosexuals have pressured the networks into blacklisting her from talk shows — on unlikely charge, which the networks deny. She did, after all, appear on the *Today* show. Here and there, notably in the gay rights stronghold of California, campaigns have been attempted to keep her off the air. Though some religious stations in Texas have received increasing numbers of calls to let her sing out, no record company has bought the recent single that she recorded on her own. Its title: *There's Nothing Like the Love Between a Woman and a Man*.

"We just want to get back to leading normal lives," says Green. "This is no fun and games." The gays, he contends, "are haunting us wherever we go. They won't let her alone." Adds Anita: "I'm not intimidated by what they do. They are making fools of themselves."

—Time Magozine, November 21, 1977.

Boston Health Service Enters 'New Phase'

by John Fowler

BOSTON — Under recently appointed director Sue Rosen, Boston's Homophile Community Health Service is entering what might be called a "new phase." From an "alternative" counseling service that opened in a church basement seven years ago, HCHS has become a highly structured, professional therapy clinic, with staffing and supervisory patterns similar to those of more traditional mental health centers. "We're stabilizing," said Rosen. "For the first time, we're in a position to do long-range planning."

Since opening in 1971, HCHS has helped in excess of 2,000 area gays in dealing with coming out, depression, alcoholism, family and marital problems. Extensive community education and training programs for therapists and gay people round out the Service's wide spectrum of programs.

Finances are a major area for long-range planning. HCHS is supported almost entirely by clients' fees, which work on a sliding scale from \$15 to \$30, with most fees averaging at the lower end of the scale. First time visitors are charged \$20 and are introduced to the variety of programs available: individual, group, or couple counseling (including therapy for parents of gays, children of gays, entire



Photo by Neil Miller

Susan Rosen

families, and married couples in which one member is gay), unemployment counseling, and the crisis service. At this initial screening session, clients decided how best to make use of the programs and staff at HCHS.

Rosen, who comes to HCHS from the Institute for Human Identity in New York, administers a program with a paid staff of seven and a volunteer staff of 22 therapists. The paid staff is made up of experienced professional psychotherapists from a variety of backgrounds including psychiatry, psy-

chology, and psychiatric nursing. Volunteer therapists at HCHS are primarily younger professionals with similar educational backgrounds. Some clinical volunteers are advanced interns representing various Boston area graduate programs in the mental health professions. All therapists, both paid and volunteer, work under psychiatric supervision.

Approximately half the staff are women, yet some 70% of the total caseload is male. "We'd like to attract more women," Rosen commented, adding, "we have to compete, of course, with the feminist therapy collectives which may seem more attractive to women."

In spite of the ever increasing caseload and the broad diversification of programs over the years, HCHS is not without its problems. In the past, funding has come principally from clients' fees and from grants, with little help coming from the gay community. "We've depended for donations on a small core of friends," Rosen explains. "Most of our supporters otherwise have been less affluent gays who given time rather than money. We're applying to United Way this year, and to several foundations, but we'd like to see more financial support from afflu-

ent gays and from sympathetic heterosexuals."

"We want to get the message out," says Rosen, "that we're doing solid work here." An institute-level training program is one of the potential directions for HCHS, assuming that its financial system can be maintained. In April, the grant which funds the extensive Family Services program at HCHS will end. In June, state money which supports the Alcoholism Program will run out. While new alternatives are sought, the clinic is looking to the gay community for long-term backing. States Rosen, "Well-to-do gays give to straight organizations that provide mental health services. We *are* the mental health agency for the gay community, but we don't get the support."

The Homophile Community Health Service may be reached by calling 542-5188 for more information about the programs it offers to the gay community. Boston Gay Hotline (counseling and community information) is 426-9371. Persons with experience in the mental health field, or as administrative assistants, fundraisers, publicity workers, or speakers are encouraged to contact HCHS by calling or writing to 80 Boylston, Suite 855, Boston 02116.

Massachusetts Episcopalians Support Rights

By Lisa Nussbaum

BOSTON — On the recommendation of its Commission on Human Sexuality, this year's convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts passed a resolution on Nov. 5 favoring full civil rights for gay people.

The resolution, in essence, acknowledges the practice of discrimination against gay people in many areas of life; affirms the need to establish civil rights protections; and urges the parishes, missions and other bodies of the Episcopal Diocese to press for enactment of these protections.

The Commission, an appointed intra-church group of 17 (about half of whom are priests and half are lay people), originally took up a body of

questions dealing with sexuality, including abortion, changing roles of men and women, homosexuality and the changing nature of the family. The Commission pared down the list to homosexuality alone after determining that the questions were too many and too broad to all be taken together. In reference to homosexuality, members sought to address two questions: (1) Is homosexuality a sin? and (2) Should gay people be ordained as priests?

After failing to reach consensus on either of the two questions, the Commission sought other common ground on the issue of homosexuality. In the words of John C. Lawrence, the only openly gay person on the Commission and vice president of Integrity/Interna-

tional, "homosexuality looms large as the big divider issue at the next National Convention [in 1979]. Our wish was to come out with a position on homosexuality to take to the convention." Also, defeat of the Massachusetts gay rights bill, the recent Supreme Court decision and other setbacks emphasized the need to frame a position, Lawrence explained.

Gay civil rights became the point which won almost unanimous support from Commission members. The resolution, written by priest Mike Shirley of St. Andrews Church, Belmont, went before the statewide convention and, owing to nearly unanimous backing by the Commission, it passed quite handily on a voice vote preceded by

about 45 minutes of debate. The Diocese generally does not ignore the recommendation of a church-appointed commission on a resolution, especially when it has nearly unanimous backing, said Lawrence.

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts now, in effect, goes on record as supporting civil rights for gay people. As for the Diocese taking on an activist role in promoting civil rights legislation, Lawrence says that it can be called on to make statements in support of such legislation, but probably wouldn't do so unless asked. His feeling is that the Diocese will have to be reminded to enunciate its support when the gay rights bill comes up again in the state legislature.

N.H. Teacher Claims Anti-Gay Stand Cost Him Jobs

MANCHESTER, NH — A former University of New Hampshire trustee has charged that his stand against the gay students Organization at the University of New Hampshire caused him to lose one job and be denied another. Alan Bridle, a former UNH trustee and student, now a teacher in Hampton, New Hampshire, made the charges in the November 22 issue of the *Manchester Union Leader*. Although Bridle blamed liberals, rather than gay people, for his employment difficulties, his charges came in the context of his "sensitivity" to Anita Bryant's "problems" with the Florida Citrus Commission. Bryant's contract was extended for another year and a half by the Florida Citrus Commission last week.

Bridle asserted in his *Union Leader* "commentary" that after he opposed the Gay Students Association's right to exist on campus, "I was told that my radio talk show, which had been broadcast for two years, would no longer need my services." At one point, he said, "I was informed by the Dean of Student Affairs it was not safe for me to stay in my college room, as a threat had been made on my well-being. I was under continuous attack by the college press."

After his graduation, Bridle was "assured" of a teaching job in a school district near his home, where he had already done some substitute teaching with good recommendation from the school principal. "Yet, when my name was brought up to the School Board, the principal was informed that my positions on the UNH Board of Trustees and my stand against the Gay Students Organization, made me an unsuitable candidate to be a teacher at that school."

"My relating the story to you now is to show that that element which uses threats and retaliation against those with whom they disagree also is here in New Hampshire," Bridle continued. "... I hope and pray for Miss Bryant. If the Florida Citrus Growers do not renew her contract then they prove they are spineless Americans..."

Although Bridle did not criticize gays specifically, a front-page editorial in the traditionally anti-gay *Union Leader* did not hesitate to do so. "Anyone who thinks the 'Gays' are just a harmless group of people 'doing their own thing' has another think (sic) coming!" wrote publisher William Loeb. "Not only is their 'thing' an

abomination, according to the Bible, not only is it a disgrace to all mankind, but also it is a threat to the way of life of the rest of us.

"When someone such as Anita Bryant or Allen Bridle dares to come out against them, they pour forth their venom and do everything possible to interfere with the individual's success

and career.

"The tragedy of the situation is that much too much publicity has been granted these aberrations in human form by newspapers and other organizations.

"They should be banned from all respectable society..."

Spanish Communist Backs

'Affectional' Preferences'

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Spanish Communist Party leader Santiago Carillo told a Harvard University audience last week that his party respects "affectional preferences" (*preferencias amorosas*) of all its members. "Each person in our party has their own literary, cultural, religious, and affectional preferences," Carillo told an overflow crowd at the university's Science Center. "These are private areas and no reason for the party to go into."

Carillo, the first leader of a Western European Communist Party to be granted a visa to visit the United States, made his remarks at the end of

a week of speaking at both Harvard and Yale. The party leader gained the ire of many on the American Left, however, when he walked through picket lines of striking service workers to speak at Yale University. Carillo, who spent 40 years both underground and in exile until the Community Party was legalized last year, now sits in the Spanish Parliament after his party won about 8% of the vote in the recent elections. He is one of the main architects of the "Eurocommunism" concept — a Western European Communism that both respects democratic traditions and is independent of the Soviet Union.

praise for pickett

Dear GCN:

As my half-year term as Political Action Committee chairperson of GAA comes to an end, I want to say a word of commendation for the "New York, New York" column by Harold Pickett.

Obviously, there can be no real gay community and no successful gay liberation movement without good, effective, fair and gay-controlled communication among gay people. Harold Pickett's column has provided this kind of communication for the gay people of the New York metropolitan area, and it has been a real service to the gay community here.

The work of gay movement organizations like GAA is made much easier when there are reporters like Harold Pickett and newspapers like GCN around. Thank you for what you have already done, and keep up the good work in the future.

Yours for Gay Power,

Joe Kennedy

Political Action Chairperson, GAA/NY

no planning part

Dear Neil:

The article of Anthony Domenick pertaining to the proposed Community Center contains an error in fact: The Unitarian Universalist Office of Gay Concerns has not been involved in planning for such a center. Several weeks ago, strictly for my own personal information, I attended one public meeting that had been announced by Mr. Bouchard. I have neither met with nor heard from Mr. Bouchard since then nor attended any further meetings. The inclusion of this office in this regard was without my knowledge or permission.

Sincerely yours,

Robert P. Wheatley

Director

Office of Gay Concerns

model homosexuals

Dear GCN:

... Slowly but surely the straight backlash is becoming evident and once it gets going, we won't be able to stop it. Life could very well be MORE difficult in the next few years than it was in the not-too-distant past and all because so many of our brothers and sisters can't see beyond their pathetic senses of humor. I agree heartily with Nancy Walker in her letter in Community Voices, 11/5/77. Some of the supposedly clever antics against people like Anita Bryant only manage to pull sympathy to them. Stop and think about the stereotypes of our lives — since the stereotypes of gay men are applied to all gay people, we are labeled "immature, shallow, a-moral."

I fail to see what is so mature, profound and moral about throwing pies in peoples' faces, or retaliating in any such logicless way. Like most of us, I have said that we should not have to live our lives trying to prove that we are what straight society calls "good," responsible" and "mature," that we should be able to live as individuals and be able to be treated as individuals, with our personal preferences, quirks, etc.

But our chance to carve out lives for ourselves on that pattern is *gone*. There were those of us too ready to abuse that opportunity, to destroy our own chance and the chances of others, by

providing our detractors with examples of every fault they love to credit us with. All our militancy and forthrightness got us *something* — laws were passed, new attitudes grew up, but where are they now? The laws are being repealed and the attitudes are sifting away. I'm afraid we're back to having to be "model homosexuals," my friends. It's our last chance. These people who are dead-set against us have to be combatted, of course, but DISCREDIT, don't martyr them. Render Anita speechless by tripping her up in her own rhetoric.

When we've REALLY managed to change society's views on homosexuality then we'll be able to branch out and be ourselves. But if we insist on indulging ourselves now we'll soon find that the backlash has left us with nothing. Don't let the illusion of freedom fool you. Sure we have more than we've every had before, but for how long?

Nan Hawthorne

shattered ears

Dear GCN,

My ears cry out to you! I simply cannot believe the prevalence of loud music in Boston's gay bars. It's not that I dislike disco, but I tire of leaving the nightspots with ringing ears (and double vision, I might add, due to the silly light shows!)

It seems strange to me that any meeting of people could occur under these circumstances! Or is this the politics of bars: one loses from the start — one is set up for it?

Please, is there any place in town that I can go where the music isn't ear shattering or must I just stand back and get blasted?

Sincerely,

Mark Dean



consumer's complaint

Dear GCN:

"Has it ever occurred to the Gay Community that we as a group of consumers might need some special sort of special "consumer protection?" I admit, it had never occurred to me, until I happened to get ripped-off by two organiza-

tions which cater to the Gay Community. To indulge a prurient whim, my lover and I sent off two orders for "erotic literature" (which is to say porno) to two well-known commercial enterprises which specialize in that sort of thing, namely BLUEBOY MAGAZINE and BRENTWOOD. After a month, during which time both checks were cashed, I wrote a polite note to each place, inquiring as to the whereabouts of our orders. Silence. Two weeks later I repeated the inquiry, with a little less *politesse*. It has now been over two months since the orders were sent, and we have received nary a word in response, nor has the ordered merchandise arrived.

It is infuriating enough to get ripped-off by any mailorder house, and even more so to be rudely ignored by the personnel of that establishment. To get this sort of shoddy treatment from gay businesses which purport to be serving the Gay Community, and when the publisher of one (BLUEBOY) has boasted of his organization's virtues on national television (Phil Donahue, Chicago), is both infuriating and insulting. . .

At least, with a little publicity, perhaps BLUEBOY and BRENTWOOD will adopt more courteous and honest practices, once they know that not all their customers are nervous professional types from Belair or Coconut Grove who won't make any noise for the sake of privacy. If GCN would send each place a complimentary copy of the issue this letter appears in, it might wake up a few fellas in the sunny cities.

Sincerely,

U. G. Dietz

Talking Politics

by David Brill

Barney Frank and Jack Backman recently announced that they would not support Michael Dukakis for reelection as governor in 1978. This announcement, coming as it did from two of the Duke's earliest supporters, was but one manifestation of the substantial erosion of support that Dukakis has incurred.

Maybe it was something in the stars, or perhaps even the drinking water, which, in 1974, caused the voters to misperceive so many candidates. It isn't only Dukakis. Frank Bellotti, for example, had 49% of the state vote against him, but now is one of the most popular politicians in the state.

On September 10, 1974, I was standing a few feet away from Michael Dukakis in the grand ballroom of Boston's 57 Restaurant after he had just defeated Robert Quinn for the Democratic nomination. With glee, he shouted, "I will not let you down."

Hey, Governor, guess what: You let us down.

What should gay people have expected from Dukakis? To answer that question, it is necessary to look at the records of governors of two other states: Pennsylvania's Milton Shapp issued an executive order banning discrimination in state employment, Jerry

Brown has ordered homophobia screening in state employment in California, and tepidly opposed the now-withdrawn Briggs initiative to ban gay teachers. Each of them has official contacts in the gay community, while Shapp has established a Governor's Commission on Sexual Minorities.

The Dukakis record is at best one of inaction. As chairperson of the Democratic National Committee's Platform Policy Committee in 1976, Dukakis was in an ideal position to push for a gay rights plank, but instead, he succumbed to pressure not to from the Carter forces. Despite considerable campaign rhetoric about support for "affirmative action," he failed to appoint a single lesbian to the 27-member Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. (Even Frank Sargent appointed Elaine Noble!) There has been no executive order from Dukakis, and, in fact, he announced at a Governor's Town Meeting in western Massachusetts last October that he supported the Equal Rights Amendment because he was sure that it would not allow homosexual marriages, which he opposed.

We expected more from Dukakis, and rightly so. There should be a gay liaison in the governor's office, and there should have been strong pro-gay statements this year during the homophobia hysteria nurtured by Anita Bry-

ant and Sen. David Locke of Wellesley.

However, the governor's record is not all bleak. He did, it should be noted, write letters to legislative committee chairmen stating that he supported the gay rights bills. To his credit, he vetoed the Flynn-Doyle anti-abortion bill. And certainly, Margaret Burnham will be a lot more sensitive to gay concerns at Boston Municipal Court than Joe DeGuglielmo.

But perhaps the single best contribution Dukakis has made has been the appointment of good people. By naming former Rep. Larry Buxbaum of Sharon to the post of Assistant Secretary of Consumer Affairs, former Rep. Dennis Kearney of Charlestown as Sheriff of Suffolk County, and former Civil Liberties Union lobbyist Joan Tuttle as Assistant Secretary of Environmental Affairs, Dukakis has made a number of state agencies more responsive to gay interests. (Tuttle deserves special recognition in this vein, as she has worked to end MDC police harassment of gay men in cruising areas.)

But still, there is something inhumane, if not inhuman, about a governor that would find money to build a road for Digital Electronics, while at the same time taking away medical assistance for welfare recipients. In Congress (The Hyde Amendment) and

Continued on page 5

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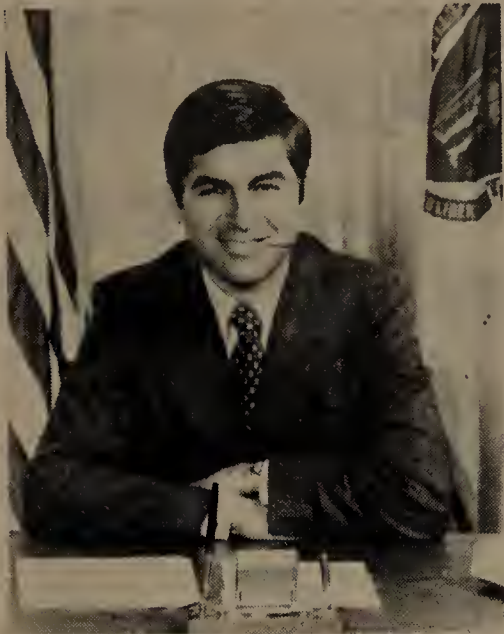
Talking Politics

Continued from page 4

in the legislature (The Flynn-Doyle bill), we have seen the real battle lines are drawn between the haves and the have-nots. If you could draw an imaginary line through the State House, and put business, industry, and the anti-gay, anti-abortion forces on one side, and the pro-human rights, pro-justice forces on the other, Dukakis would have trouble deciding where to stand. And that's not good.

But back to Barney and Jack. Jack, for the record, said he's not sure any one candidate would interest him at this time, and says he just may "sit out" next year's election. Barney is thinking of several candidates, including former House Speaker David Bartley of Holyoke. (Frank has even been pondering the team of Middlesex County Sheriff John Buckley and Rep. Barbara Gray of Framingham — Republicans!)

But if Dukakis is bad, what about the other choices? Bartley would have signed the Flynn-Doyle bill, the death penalty bill, and has the motivation to make Robert Quinn a judge. Senate President Kevin Harrington, for all his brilliance, would make the governor's office a surrogate utility company. Former Massport head Ed King would take a bulldozer to the Back Bay if some manufacturer wanted to build a factory.



Governor Michael Dukakis

The only decent alternatives — if one needs to find one — are on the Republican side. Rep. Frank Hatch of Beverly is a reliable gay rights supporter with a long record of decency as a legislator. And Middlesex County Sheriff John Buckley would be innovative and desirable, but neither he nor Hatch appears about to beat Dukakis.

So maybe Jack Backman is right in sitting out the 1978 governor's race. The present incumbent is certainly not the type of candidate to whom I would

give a vote with the same enthusiasm next year as in 1974, but by the same token, the alternatives are equally non-plussing. Well, sure, given the rightward tide of politics these days, we could do worse than Mike Dukakis.

But not much.

Barney, though, defended Harrington in a recent interview. Citing the Senate President's long history of sup-

port for funding for social welfare and prison reform, he called Harrington's liberal record "a quiet one" and predicted that, as governor, Harrington "would do no less for gay rights than Dukakis." (Barney noted that a gay rights bill passed the Senate this year, and that "if Harrington didn't want it, it wouldn't have passed.")

Youth Remanded in Shooting

MIAMI, Fla. — A young man who shot a Miami gay bartender with a BB gun outside a gay dance here has been remanded to custody of the Youth Services Division with a suspended sentence. The judge in the case, Justice Seymour Gelber, also ordered that full restitution be made to the victim and that a follow-up report be made in 60 days and every 60 days thereafter.

The youth had pleaded no contest to charges of aggravated battery and use of a weapon in the BB gun shooting of John Ward last June 27. Ward suffered a collapsed lung after he was shot while waiting for a taxi in Coconut Grove.

The judge's decision came after the defense had introduced three football coaches as witnesses in an attempt to persuade the court that an athletic program would be sufficient means of rehabilitation for the youth.

However, Justice Gelber refused to

accept defense arguments and asserted, "I don't believe for one minute that the athletic program at Coral Gables High School, as good as it is, has the kind of impact that we are talking about here, as it relates to how people treat one another. This case is one of the most distressing ones I've had before me and I'm not prepared to view this as an ordinary situation. The community suffered terrible damage here as a result of this, and I want the community to know that we are not going to tolerate this kind of behavior."

Court appointed youth counselor Jose Osario had recommended to the court that the youth be committed to youth service programs and suspended sentencing as long as the defendant agreed to psychotherapy, family counseling, school programs, and restitution to the victim.

The Dade County Gay Coalition praised the judge's decision and expressed their approval that he "treated this case as a very serious matter." In the courtroom, John Ward, victim of the attack, said that "I would like to see the young man work with physically or mentally handicapped persons for a couple of years to make him more aware of what life is really about."

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— Joseph Cain In Touch

Men & Women 7 Nights 5-1

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By Harold Pickett

By Harold Pickett

NEW YORK — Under the Freedom of Information Act, the **Gay Activists Alliance** has received a reply to an appeal it filed earlier this year with the Department of Justice. The appeal resulted from the "insufficient" material previously received when GAA requested its FBI files. At that time, only a few pages of material was sent. Now, it's reported that an additional 86 pages will be released. Art Gursch, secretary of GAA, says that the only materials still to be withheld or deleted are those which "consist of names of special agents and materials referring to third parties and bureau sources." Gursch feels that even this decision may be appealed if a precedent can be found which would enable GAA to get a court order for the release of the names of agents.

Monday, Nov. 28, at 7:30 p.m., is the next meeting of the **Men's Center**, a group composed of men with varying sexual orientations who are exploring consciousness and personal liberation in a loving and non-sexist environment. They have a new meeting place at Washington Square Methodist Church parish house, one flight up, at 133 W. 4th St., between 6th and MacDougal. Future meetings will be on each Monday after that.

The Soho News, a weekly city paper, is one of the most enjoyable and least homophobic publications that I read, with the exception of **Bob Weiner's** column. Weiner tries for some imagined self-importance and has for a few weeks been attempting to carry on a one-sided feud with the *Voice's* gay

columnist, **Arthur Bell**. As **David Rothenberg** noted in a recent issue of *Gaysweek*, Weiner often stoops to homophobic, personal attacks on Bell. Weiner sounds to me either like a jilted ex-lover or one who's personally jealous of Bell's self-acceptance and public success as an open gay.

Aside from Weiner, the paper has good coverage of gay news and appropriate references. In a recent issue, **Larry Lopez**, writing in the "Albany Circus" column, brought Governor

Carey to task for neglecting to support gay rights.

Lopez writes "Despite a campaign promise to support equal rights for homosexuals, Hugh Carey has cut the budget of the state's staunchest gay rights advocate and steadfastly refused to put his name on gay legislation.

"And according to gay and straight activists, the governor has even refused to answer their letters or to turn the letters over to someone else for a response, his usual practice."

Lopez continues "For one thing, Carey has twice rejected Human Rights Commissioner Werner Kramarsky's plea to make gay rights a part of his legislative program and is about to reject it a third time."

The article concluded with an appropriate quote by Albany gay lobbyist **John Nehrich** who feels it will be necessary for gays to start bloc voting on a one-issue basis. "After all," Nehrich stated, "the voting booth is one of the best closets there is."

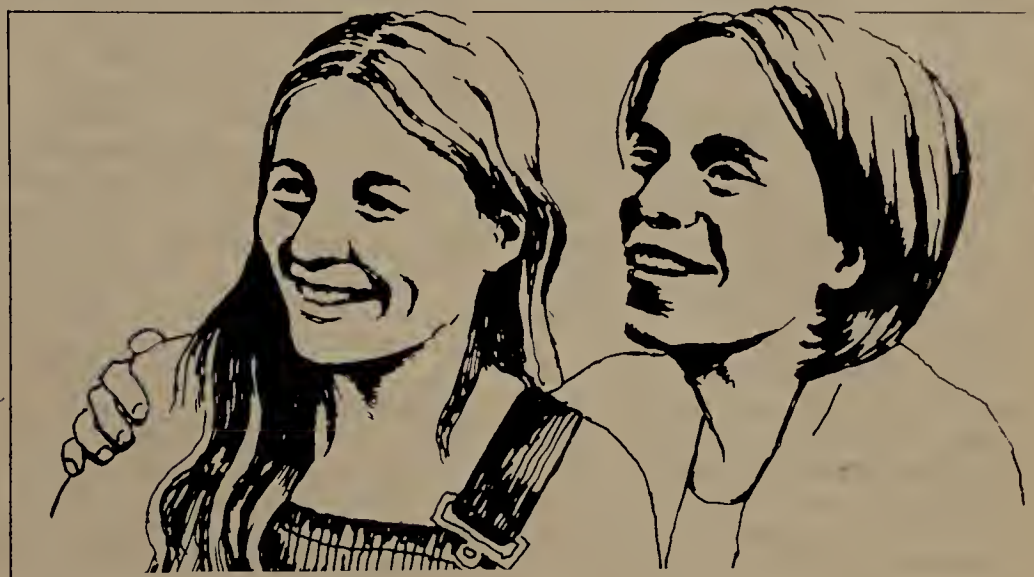
Houston Conference Backs Lesbian Rights

Continued from page 1

varied widely throughout the weekend. The "Pro-Family Coalition" ran a half-page ad in Houston newspapers showing a little girl holding a bouquet of flowers, asking, "Mommy, when I grow up, can I be a lesbian?" On the other hand, many were touched by the sight of a woman and her child holding a poster that read, "Lesbian Mothers are Pro-Family."

Anita Bryant, who did not attend, said that she believed that the IWY conference was a farce, and that most American women would not favor a resolution supporting lesbianism. She also criticized the government funding of the conference.

The spearhead of anti-feminism, Phyllis Schlafly, stated before the weekend that the conference would be "the death knell of the women's liberation movement." But, according to the perceptions of most women there, this



was not the case, and if the women's movement was ringing any bells, they were bells of triumph.

Neither Congress nor the President are obligated to act on any of the resolutions, and many of those who at-

tended realized that this conference was not an end in itself, but a major step in the course of a long battle. As Bella Abzug put it, "We are here running for equality. We'll never run for cover on this journey."

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Harry Allard of Children Talks About

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Harry Allard writes stories for children. His latest is *It's So Nice To Have A Wolf Around The House* (Doubleday), illustrated by James Marshall.

Wolf is Allard's 6th book published in the last four years. As a relative newcomer to children's books, Allard has drawn attention and an audience.

"This year has been a very good year for me," he said. "The tree has just blossomed. *Miss Nelson Is Missing* came out in April and has sold over 15,000 copies. *Crash Helmet* came out in May. And *Wolf* in September." *Miss Nelson*, like *Wolf*, is illustrated by the prolific and talented James Marshall. *Crash Helmet* has illustrations by the Egyptian-American artist, Jean-Claude Soares, whose pen-and-ink drawings are often seen on the Op-Ed page of *The New York Times*.

Speaking of *The Times*, two of Allard's recent books were favorably reviewed in consecutive issues of *The Times Book Supplement*.

"A *Times* review is good for one's ego, but actually there are two better reviews in *School Library Journal* and *American Library Association*. Starred reviews. That means that, like zombies, librarians go out and buy it. The *Social Library Journal* can make or break a book no matter what *The Times* thinks."

Harry Allard was in his mid-40's before he started writing children's books. It was through his friendship with Jim Marshall that his first book developed, *The Stupids Step Out* (GCN 7/20/74). "James is tremendous both as an illustrator and as a writer. It

was my great break to begin with him. I think we share a sense of humor. He always knows what I'm doing. We complement each other." Marshall, a writer/illustrator of staggering productivity and imagination, has over a dozen titles in print. His most recent is *A Summer In The South*.

Harry was born in Chicago in 1928 and grew up there during the Depression. His father ran a music school—"it was phoney"—that was, at best, marginal. His was not the ideal childhood. "It's hard for me to remember the Depression. It just seems grey. I've just blotted it out of my mind. I did go to the movies every Saturday with my sister. It cost a quarter. Movies were the only things that kept people alive. I remember being the fall guy for the family, having to take the rent down to the ogress of a landlady so that my parents wouldn't have to face her. I had a little dog, a Boston terrier named Sally. I think everyone who's gay has had the same kind of life. You live in your own dream world. I think growing up gay provides a very fertile ground for imaginative efforts. For example, I made puppets and had puppet shows. The gay temperament is very introspective. I think gay people ask questions much earlier than other people—metaphysical questions. Almost always your parents are at each other's throat. Mine were. You learn to question everything. The normal temperament asks 'How?'—How am I going to get a better car, a better job? And the philosophical temperament asks 'Why?' I ask: 'Why get a better job?' "

After school his first job was working in the offices of Kraft Cheese—filing. "I couldn't even do the filing. It wasn't that I didn't know the alphabet. I seemed to antagonize people by my very existence. You know that lower-middle-class mentality. The office people there were like dogs smelling each others' behinds. It makes me think of when Yul Brynner fled France in 1940. Jean Cocteau, whose finances were at neap tide then, told him: 'Yul, I'd like to give you a going-away present, but I just don't have any money. But I'll give you a piece of advice that's worth more than anything else in the world: Never deal with fools!' "

One way out of Chicago (and Kraft Cheese) was the Army. Harry was drafted in 1950. He served on the front lines in the Korean War in a communications outpost. He used the time to read Proust from A to Z. After his discharge, he went to Paris. "I meant to stay a year. I stayed three years and then went back for another year. I'd love to live in France again, but it becomes less and less possible to rearrange one's life. The two cities I like best are Paris and San Antonio. Sounds strange, but San Antonio is a lovely city, completely Mexican. It's a lotus-land, people sitting by swimming pools with a glass of gin and tonic for the next 35 years. But, if I could do it, I'd live in the south of France, where all those prehistoric cave paintings are near the Spanish border."

In Paris, Allard supported himself teaching at Berlitz. During his years

**"Time to get ready for bed," said Mrs. Stupid.
The Stupids put on their sleeping clothes.
"Don't we look handsome," said Mr. Stupid**

From *The Stupids Step Out*, Artwork by James Marshall

there, he had several interviews with Jean Cocteau. Allard's American roommate was doing his doctorate on American plays performed in Europe. Cocteau translated Williams' *Streetcar Named Desire*. Since Allard's roommate spoke no French, Harry agreed to go along as translator. "So we went to meet Cocteau at the Palais Royal where he lived. Cocteau was in his white terry-cloth bathrobe, scratching his balls, surrounded by journalists. Just a carnival. All these interviews going on. He had become like the Eiffel Tower. He said to us: 'We really can't talk here.' So we went to a huge 5-story house and the butler let us in. We talked there. Cocteau never answered anybody's questions. He'd say things like: 'I know I'll never live long enough to see the de-gravitation of the earth.' Apparently he had some news that there was this scientific breakthrough that the earth was going to be de-gravitated. Then he gave me some drawings. That was nice. And now he's gone."

His Paris days over, Allard returned to Chicago in the mid-'50's. "I was 27, a little old for graduate school. There was really nothing I could do." The only marketable skill he had developed

was teaching French. He finally got a job as a language instructor. "I wouldn't have got the job if a French teacher hadn't dropped dead of a heart attack in the library. That was my big break. So I went to Wisconsin to teach."

Allard continued his own education at a series of schools, while teaching, until he finally earned his PhD. from Yale a few years ago. "Wherever you taught, you were always at the bottom of the totempole if you didn't have a doctorate. So I went to Yale and got my fancy doctorate. I thought I could write my own ticket at last. But that was just at the time everything folded up for language teachers." He's currently teaching French at Salem State College and has tenure there.

Harry Allard is a romantic. There is a quality of belief in things magical in his conversation and certainly in his work. He lights up with an appreciation at wonderful things, a rare quality in a middle-aged man. His conversation sparkles with delightful non-sequiters. His politics, such as they are, are monarchical, but of the simplistic movie-tone *Prisoner of Zenda*-type. "Governments are, by definition, a mess. Let them at least be glamorous."



Harry Allard
and his cats.



ed: A Teller 's Stories t His Life

By John Mitzel

The toilet wouldn't fill up. I had to fill it with the hand-held shower thing."

Though he has established a reputation as a successful author of stories for children, Allard has few specific thoughts on the genre. Although he does think, "there's a kind of mafia of a certain type of editor. They try to manipulate children through children's literature. They try to inject some currently popular mythology into the child's mind. There's a recent crop of these anti-sex-stereotype books, little boys making doilies and fudge and little girls playing football. It's a good idea, but I don't think the kids are interested. I think the domain of children's literature is imagination. Because you can just do anything. You can start with anything and go on from there. The great pitfall you must look out for is camp, writing only to amuse yourself."

As to his own tastes in the genre: "I don't have any. That's the point. I never read the books. I'm only interested in the Brothers Grimm, which I read in German now. I think that if there's anything I admire, it's Grimm, because if you read the first line, you have to read more. Always the first sentence is so amazing. You can't believe it. There are breaks in the stories when there's an absence of causality. Things just happen, just like in life."

It's a common but misinformed idea that writing stories for children is easy work. Many people think that anybody can turn out salable and successful product for children. The best response is to advise people to attempt it. It is not

tive and teaching children to laugh at people who had low IQs. She just missed the point. But after that, Gene Shalit raved about *The Stupids* on *The Today Show*, and that made it." A further adventure of the wack-o Stupid Family is now in press, *The Stupids Have A Ball*.

Other projects underway are another translation of a children's book from French. Two original titles are in the works: *May I Stay* and *Bumps In The Night*. Allard is also working on a translation of a novel, *Gilles*, by the French collaborationist writer, Pierre Drieu La Rochelle. "There's a whole group of fascist artists in every country in the last war who puzzle people because they were on the losing side but they often had more talent than a lot of people. Ezra Pound. Even T. S. Eliot was accused of being pro-fascist, and perhaps he was, at least temperamentally. Some writers have been ignored in France because they are embarrassing to the current mythology. The only one who escapes oblivion is Celine who was so flagrantly fascist, he even embarrassed the fascists—he accused the Pope of being Jewish. (When the Allies came to liberate Paris, Celine fled to Germany on a bicycle with a 24-year-old cat in a sack.) Arletty, the lesbian actress (enshrined forever as Garance in *Les Enfants Du Paradis*) was in the same boat. She was struck from the civil list for two years. It was sort of a Purgatory they were put into; they couldn't work. Paul Morand was also greatly compromised. He was a writer. Brasillach was actually shot. Drieu

killed himself. These writers have been ignored for the last 30 years. But the reason I'm translating Drieu is as an exercise. It's harder than I thought it was. It's really hard to get something that's faithful to the original sentence so that it's English but not wooden English. You don't want to betray the style of the writer. Someone like Cocteau would be easy to translate because he writes in simple sentences."

Even though the children's stories are short, compact narratives, the attitudes and imagination filling them have counterparts in Allard's own life. He has his favorites from among his own books. "Sometimes there are things that are more serious. Like this book about the wolf. I think one of the reasons it's cohesive is because, probably without my knowing it, it came from a deep side of myself. It's about an old man, dottering and senile, on his last legs. When I wrote it, I was living in Nahant, like Napoleon in exile on St. Helena, feeling sorry for myself. I think the story's a projection of myself. And some creature, perhaps amoral, but with great animal vitality, comes along and injects me with his furry animalism."

A lovely thought, and a nice hope. But not one to be realized at this moment. Allard currently lives alone with seven quite delightfully plump and languid cats as companions. "Any (Russian) candidates please put a *petite annonce* in either *The Real Paper* or *The Phoenix*."

A drawing

from Mr. Cocteau

to Mr. Allard.

While Kitty was parking the car, Stanley Stupid saw something amusing.

"Look at those funny-looking people in the window," he said to his family.

"Yes, they are certainly stupid looking," said Mrs. Stupid.

"Don't stare at them, children. It's impolite."

From *The Stupids Step Out*, Artwork by James Marshall

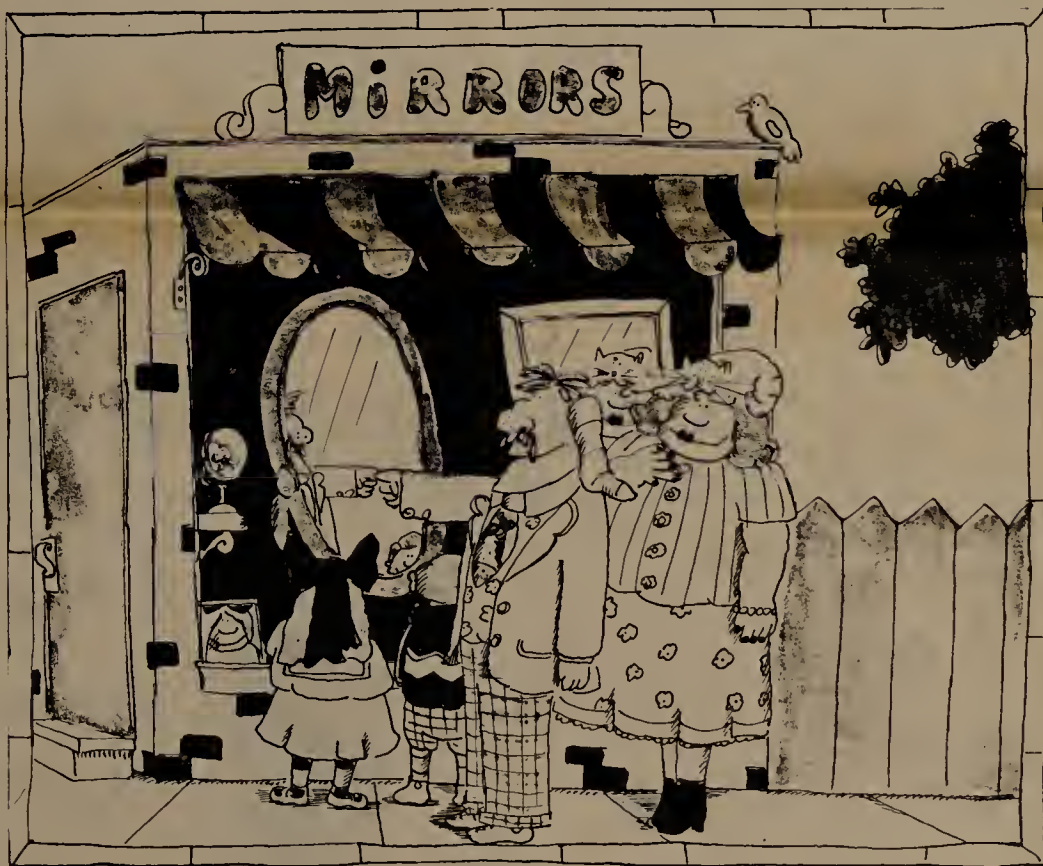
It is more the storybook image of monarchy that attracts his imagination. He once said: "I'd love to live in a country where the men wear uniforms to the opera and the women wear lots of jewelry."

Historical Russia is all bound up with this image. There are photos and momentos of the Romanovs in every room of his apartment. Allard is fascinated with Russia and Russians and has traveled to the USSR twice in the past two years. "I went to Russia because in another life I felt I was a Russian. I've known so many Russians in my life. I adore Russians. The Russians I knew in Paris were nocturnal. They always had cats. They were extremely generous and disorderly. And the Russians in Russia are the same, at least the ones I met. That's why I went the second time. In Russian, they almost never use the verb 'to have,' which is so common in other languages. They say: 'by me is.' Some philosophers have speculated that perhaps right in the language itself is a lack of possessiveness. Russia is vast and mysterious. Of course it's grim now. Nothing works. When I walked into my hotel room there, I found two inches of water on the bathroom floor.

as simple as it might appear. One must write *for* children, not at them or to them, and it is a difficult mix to get the right tone, the right imaginative quality, the right economy of words, and the right fantasy in the narrative. "In the academic world, there's a scorn—mixed with envy for the money—about writing children's books. They all think they could do it if they didn't have their scholarly work to do on Melville's left big toe."

Harry was once asked to teach a course about children's literature. He refused. "People taking the course would just be waiting for a formula. I've just given one talk about it in my life, and I was a flop. I'll never do it again. They all wanted the Formula. How Do You Do It? What's The Editor's Name? And When Do I Get The Check? Their minds and hearts were barren."

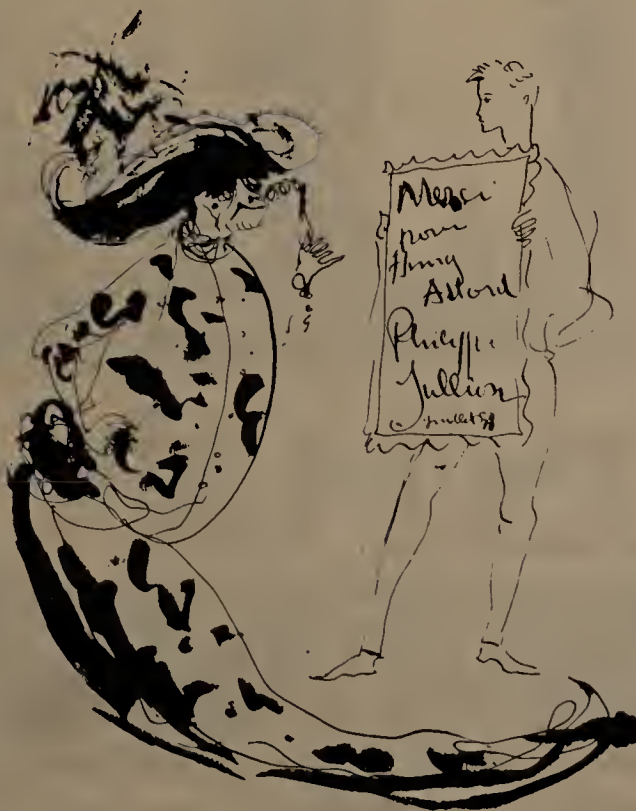
Once published, there's no guessing why one book succeeds and another doesn't. Of Allard's books, *The Stupids Step Out* is my favorite. Others had different opinions. "You know, there was a lot of hostility directed at *The Stupids* when it first came out. Some woman wrote somewhere that we were making fun of the mentally defec-



A drawing

from Philippe Jullian

for Mr. Allard.



S'irani Avedis—A Fiery Sign

By Sara Annie Fisher

The music of S'irani Avedis (formerly Sally Piano) is anguished, punky, and politically weighty. Her musical artistry reaches some exquisite peaks. S'irani's politics are expressed with both rigidity and ribaldry. The political thrust of her performance in Harvard's Paine Hall on Saturday evening, November 19th was unsettling and harsh for me. It often took the form of *forcible* expression. She made her statements in an unclear and often flippant, sensationalized way.

S'irani decried the "star mystique" which causes remoteness between audience and performer, and which withholds emotion and personal involvement. But I found it damaging for her to raise so many critical issues without being responsible enough to explain her positions thoroughly. I felt she goaded us into seeing issues which she herself did not understand.

She speaks of how all people are trampled upon in this polluted world, how we all suffer from invalidation and oppression. Yet I found rampant inconsistencies in her political concerns. After sensationalizing a non-representative letter from a transsexual who spoke of "the inferiority of genetic women," she belabored this issue to the point of cruelty. She then sang how "there ain't no copy good enough" to be a true woman. Learning might have transpired through listening to another's beliefs. Instead, S'irani badgered the audience with her ire and ridicule, and her intent was lost to me, as was any deepened understanding.

She taught some Armenian history, how she is embracing her cultural heri-



tage. She has changed her name from Sally Piano to S'irani Avedis. S'irani (tsee/rrah/nee) means rainbow, and Avedis (ah/veh/dees) means "the bringer of messages." She is secure in her heritage, and this shows strongly in her song *Rainbow Woman*. She does not acknowledge the term or the concept of "Third World" because she believes it is politically and economically misleading as a category. She describes racism and sexism as when an individual is "being raised to be no more than an ornamental slave." She sang with such anger and pride. I wished for greater sensitivity and more respectful handling of other issues.

"I hate you for betraying yourself" was her address to those "zombie creatures," women office workers. S'irani wrote this song while gazing around at women on the early morning bus as she travelled to her Kelly Girl assignment.

"Everyday it gets easier to forget womankindness as you forsake womankind."

Few women office workers possess the "\$500 outfits" which she detailed. These women have valid skills and valid lives. Because some women must

work as secretaries does not mean we have become robotized and indifferent, it does not signify betrayal or abandonment of ourselves or other women. Choice and circumstances are at the core, which she dismisses as she sings cleverly of fashions and loss of will. If the focus of S'irani's music is oppression in a devastating society, then she must look at its entirety.

S'irani Avedis is a compelling musician when she is clear about the political content of her songs, and when she does not knuckle under to endless self-deprecation and defense. In her introduction to one song she said, "Solidarity and growth are important to me." Her songs stress these elements so vital to her life. S'irani sings a spectrum, from raging a capella about being "just a punk child brat gone wild" to crooning a gentle and pained love song, *In the Morning Sun*. Her piano, song, and voice synchronize beautifully. In *California Mood* she laments the climate there, while desolate droplets of rain plink on the piano. She is an artist dancing with her instruments.

"We're a rising nation
We're a balloon inside

We're coming out singing
for the first time."

This song began the second set with a much-needed buoyancy, and was played with a rousing piano style, congruous with the "fiery sign" explosive nature of the lyrics. *Funky Fine Fucker*, a kind of "lesbian propaganda" tune advising all cheerleaders that "it's fun to be a lesbian" and that "you'd be better off with your best friend," was pounded out in S'irani's particularly bawdy fashion.

One of the most stirring songs was about physical disability and the psychological torment of disease, dedicated to a 22 year-old friend with kidney disease.

"Don't need an athlete to make an Amazon
Don't need legs to be tall enough to stand
Don't need sight to see the possibilities."

Singing of several women who are "warriors in this great revolution/ and every war has got its casualties," she does not speak of resignation, but of hopefulness and stamina. S'irani accompanied her song with graceful signing as she spoke of Renee, a deaf woman "born into silence."

"Born a woman with hope inside her heart

No disease will keep her in a cage."

S'irani Avedis is an artist with much exuberance, often healthy animosity, very moving vulnerability, and many voices. Her concert was erratic, complex and whirling with her piano prowess. "She's a crazy lady, a bright design," and I wish her the clearness of spring water.

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Role of Oscar Wilde Brought to Life

DIVERSION & DELIGHTS, a play with Vincent Price as Oscar Wilde, is written by John Gay and directed by Joseph Hardy. It will be at Boston's Colonial Theatre through December 10.

A review by Jim Marko

Oscar Wilde is egocentric, self-centered, grand, overly mannered, fey, bitchy, vengeful, self-pitying, caustic, wildly sexist, haughty, amoral, vain, angry, sad, near death, a drunkard, "the spendrift of his own genius," and, as performed by Vincent Price, a joy to hear and watch.

Diversions & Delights by John Gay is set in a tacky concert hall in Paris on the 28th day of November, 1899. It is the last year of Wilde's life and he is suffering from an infection of the inner ear which becomes more painful during the course of the evening.

Strutting on stage with absinthe in hand, Price as Wilde begins an immediate assault on just about everybody and everything. The observations tumble out of his pursed lips, bump into *bon mots* and fall over aphorisms—all delivered in a caustic and studied indifference.

Even those of us who have always found Oscar Wilde to have been little more than a clever writer of grand epigrams, are easily entertained and touched by Price's convincing performance. He becomes tiresome and overbearing on countless occasions during the evening. Those eyebrows arch once too often and the eye balls roll one time too many. But this is the

Wilde one expected and has come to the theater to see.

There are no secrets in this night's diversion at the concert hall on the Rue de la Pepinier, Paris. It is the "touching scandal of this wicked flesh." With the constricted voice of one who views life as debauch and has spent two years in prison, Price's Wilde attacks Americans, the English, politicians, liars, critics, actors, audiences, theater managers, priests, and the church. The most vicious volleys are saved for the moralists of society. "Morality is the attitude we adopt toward the people we dislike." This question of morality is central to John Gay's witty, humorous and razor-edged script.

Increasingly drunk on his beloved absinthe, Price as Wilde is superb in the evening's second act. It deals, primarily, with the unbelievably idiotic trial and imprisonment of the young playwright. Wilde was accused by the Marquis of Queensbury of "posing as a sodomite"—the Marquis could not even spell the word. The snobbish Wilde decided to bring a slander suit, no doubt inspired more by his *grande passion* for the Marquis' son Lord Alfred than by any reasonable reaction to the insult.

Price shows us an intense, angry and embittered Wilde who relates details of the horrid trial and subsequent jailing. Contemptuous and betrayed, this stumbling, doomed character is reduced to one of the evening's sadder observations: "Only those we love betray us." Self-indulgent and ever more self-pitying, Price's Wilde lurches



Vincent Price as Oscar Wilde in *Diversions & Delights*. The play is a humorous yet touching account of Wilde's last year of life.

about the small stage in fits of anger mixed with fits of melancholy for his "Bosie." It is a disconsolate moment for Oscar Wilde but a grand theater moment for Vincent Price.

"What is the difference between one sexual activity and another?" asks Wilde. What will endear this fop who suggests that there is no new emotion for him to feel and who cannot "abide" a man without a single vice? What will endear him to us, in Price's performance, are the feelings concerning that "love that dares not speak its name"—the euphemism the court gave to Wilde's homosexuality. "It is an affection as pure as it is perfect," Price cries indignantly. "It is a misunderstood emotion—a love beyond rival." It is a love that died only of mendacity and for the lack of truthfulness. Price is alternately lost in the reverie and the hatred in the scene that intersperses bits of *Reading Gaol* with other observations of Wilde's beautiful and somber experience with the young Lord Alfred.

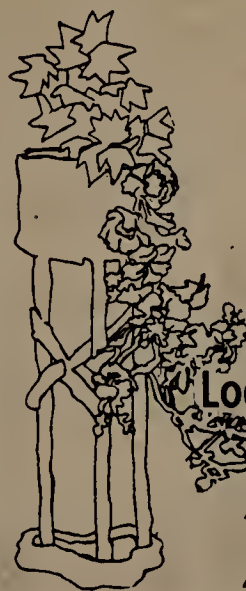
An earlier joy concludes the first of the two act evening of *Diversions & Delights*. A quieted, seated Wilde describes a friendship with a young fellow student just before college days. He thinks now of the boy as a "mute poet" but was not able to notice the nearly overburdening love his friend was bestowing upon him. As they parted, the student kissed him on the lips. "I felt the boy's cold tears on my face. I know what love is now."

Oscar Wilde is purported to have told Andre Gide that he had put his genius into his life, and only his talent into his writings. *Diversions & Delights* is an evening filled with the talented and combined genius of Vincent Price, John Gay and Oscar O'Flahertie Wills Wilde.

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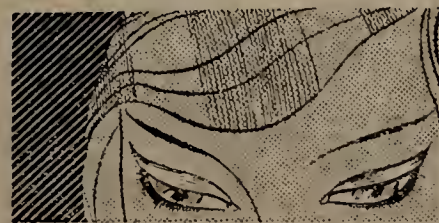
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THE FURIES OF MOTHER JONES, a musical play written and directed by Maxine Klein, is being performed by the Little Flags Theatre through December 17 (on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights) at the Peoples Theatre, Inman Square, Cambridge.

By Jim Marko

When Mary Harris "Mother" Jones died in 1930 at the age of 100, she left behind a story rich in struggle and resistance. With a dozen songs celebrating the culture of Appalachian coal miners, Maxine Klein presents a play dedicated to this woman who was active in almost every movement for justice and workers' rights.

Klein asks us to become acquainted with Mother Jones' Union and to "maybe join it." For all of the first of the two acts, you might just do that.

Jumping narratively from the recent coal miners' union battle between Joseph Yablonski and Tony Boyle to an individual's fight against strip mining to events in the past history of the long unionization struggle, *Furies* paints a fine, tightly-wrought and fairly non-didactic picture of an exploited working class. The play works amazingly well on Michael Anania's easily adaptive set.

The rousing music, with a fine score by James Oestereich, is a great compliment to the poetry of *Furies*. When the cast sings "Gotta Organize," the play turns into a stand-up, clap-your-hands



Singing songs of the labor struggle: Peggy Ings, Ellen Field (as Mother Jones), Andrea Saragov and Anita Barzman.

revival meeting that is very contagious. "Nothing to Rest My Eyes Against" is an honestly heart-tugging song by the women who are central to this play.

Furies is a continuation of the politically aware work of Maxine Klein. She and her Little Flags Theatre have given us *Fanshen* and *Tania* in the past, in which the mix of politics and theatre worked well. An aware and committed person, Klein presents a natural and warm view of a homosexual relationship in her newest piece. The situation is so easily a part of the complete play that one looks forward to a large scale effort on Klein's part in pre-

sending a gay relationship on stage.

This work has a thoroughly involved, exciting, neat and intense ensemble of players. I was especially impressed by the naturalistic performances of Anita Barzman and Davis Bates. Watch for Andrea Saragov's moving work in the final scene of Act One, in which she is dragged off the land she has been trying to hold on to in the face of the "progress" of strip mining. It is in that brief and wildly intense moment that the legacy, indeed the fury, of Mother Jones lives on.

But as Mother herself might point out, when you fight one battle, you know there are more. Maxine Klein loses one in her second act. The play,

(continued on next page)

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people, places and flings

By Eric Rogers

Finish off the Thanksgiving leftovers and get ready for an exciting holiday season. While most gay organizations and bars wait until mid-December for their holiday parties, nightlife in Boston usually brightens at the start of the month. This year is no different. **Linda Gerard**, who has been packing in full-houses at the **Pied Piper** in Provincetown for the past three summers, is bringing her act to the **Copley Plaza** on December 8th. Boston gays may remember Linda's entertainment at the Gay Pride March in June and since that time she has worked up a show that should bring the same standing ovations that she received on the Cape. I'm told Linda's act includes songs from many genres—show tunes, the blues, country ballads—as well as the tall tales, giggles and joking that Linda delivers with her special charm. Tickets for "An Evening with Linda Gerard," (cocktails in the Venetian Room at 6:30, cabaret in the Oval Room at 7:30) are available at the **Copley Plaza** . . . The new manager at the Community Club is Nancy Ryan. She's planning some really great parties upstairs and I hear drink prices are going down to stay. She'd love to have everyone stop in and say hello.

At **Passim**, behind the Coop in Harvard Square, **Allen Ginsberg** and friends will be reading poetry and performing their wild antics on Thursday, December 1 through Sunday, December 4. **Allen's** shows sell out quickly, so be sure to pick up tickets in advance . . . Happy 20th Birthday to **Sporter's!** The December 1st Celebration promises an afternoon buffet, Cocktail

prices from 1957 until 8pm, a midnight dinner, a prize for the best 50's attire. Be sure to stop in and wish **Jack Rubin's** place a happy birthday!

From up north in ski-country, I've received word that **Jimmy Mitchell's Mountain Lodge** has completed the move to bigger and better facilities on Mt. Ascutney in Vermont. The new lodge features a pool, nine-hole golf course, and a breathtaking view. Now is the time to start planning a romantic ski-trip to **Jimmy's** place . . . Don't miss "An Evening with the Stars" on Wednesday night, November 30, at the **Citadel**. The show features three of our favorites—**Sylvia Sydney**, **Collette**, and **Carl Houston**—together for the first time. The show starts at 10 PM and it sounds like a perfect way to escape the midweek doldrums . . . **Harriet Leider** will be back at **Somewhere** on Saturday, December 3 and Sunday, December 4. . .

Craig Russell's Outrageous soundtrack is finally out on an album but hurry—it's selling out fast all over town. Don't miss the opportunity to bring the "many faces of Craig" into your home . . . add to that, the **Orson Welles Cinema** is now naming **Outrageous** the most popular film ever in the history of the **Welles**. . . **A Special Day**, an Italian film starring Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni, is coming to Boston. The movie focuses on a brief encounter between a working-class housewife and an out-of-work homosexual man in a tenement in fascist Italy. It's a different setting from **Romeo & Juliet's** Verona, but it's an interesting and sensitive movie about two people drawn together by

their needs . . . While we're on the subject, **Leah Fritz** will be discussing "Feminism vs Fascism" for the Community Church of Boston on Nov. 27 at 11 a.m., in Morse Auditorium, 602 Commonwealth Avenue. **Joanna Cazden** will be on hand providing music . . . The new **Mouth of the Dragon**, an anthology of poetry by gay writers, is out and includes a short, erotic poem by Jim Marko, who contributes to **GCN**.

Now's the time to begin your holiday shopping and you might want to begin at **Copley Flair** at 583 Boylston St. Besides their collection of soaps and gourmet jelly beans, they carry some of the best cards in town, including a selection from Birthday Book Greetings—my favorite—from NYC . . . The **Cyclorama Flea Market and Antiques Christmas Fair** will be taking place Sun. Dec. 4. There will be something for everyone. Truly a one-stop Christ-

mas shopping opportunity, and for those special handcrafted items you'd been searching for try **Christmas Secrets** located in the Cyclorama building open thru Dec. 24, 10-6 Sat.-Thurs. and 10-8 Fridays.

The **Eagle Annex** is open at 81 Kil-marnock St. in the Fenway. The front part of the store offers lush green plants and a pet shop, and the back room is the **L & L** shop with a Christmas stock of leather toys and erotic accoutrements. Stop in on your way to the **Eagle**—the shop's open until 2a.m. . . . Over in Inman Square, Cambridge, check out **Gypsy Wagon**, 204 Hampshire St., a store with handcrafted jewelry, gifts, and unusual clothing from all over the world. I dropped by and found myself a big, snuggly-warm sweater to get me through the winter.

Until next week, snuggle up and enjoy the onslaught of December.

Politics and theatre

(Continued from previous page)

which up to this point delicately walks the line between committed and strident political theatre, falls into the murky realm of moral teaching. Nearly all of the act could be pruned and a new ending devised.

It is not only the theatre-as-hand-bill feeling that goes wrong here, but one tends to finally settle into the figure of Mother Jones. Ellen Field, with her slight smirk, her twinkly eyes, and jaunty moves has one fooled for most

of Act One. You believe this matronly women may have been the "hell-cat organizer" she claims to be—but, no. Watch closely and Field is giving us nothing more than caricature. It is one's own memories and knowledge of Mother Jones that fix her in place.

Ignore the black-clad figure of Mother, if you can, and settle on her Furies. Settle on those strong and powerful women behind the over-worked coal miners. The picture of angry, hang-tough, working-class women proves that it has been "a long hard struggle for labor and women." The legacy of Mother Jones lives on in the continuing struggle personified by these women. The play is a celebration of "herstory."

THOMAS SLACK

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penpals

We get many requests from gays in prison to put pen pal ads in for them. Limited space prevents us from printing as many of these ads as we would like to, since the prisoners do not have the funds to pay for their ads. We will print more if anyone out there is willing to contribute. For each \$3 we receive we can print one more pen pal ad. Send checks to Penpals, GCN Box 92. (c)

ATTENTION INMATES

If you desire penpals, please contact M.C.C. of the Rockies, POB 9536, Denver, CO 80209. (c)

Lonely prisoner wants penpals. WM, 28 yrs, 5'8", 185, brown hair, blue eyes. Will answer all letters. Robert J. Hdaschak, 021155, P-1-N-6, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (22)

Prisoner considers himself to have been unfairly and "illegally" treated, seeks help for a defense fund. Will answer all letters. GWM, 29, Gerry Vernon McDonnell, 36119-115, P.O. Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959. (22)

Gay male seeks correspondence. Billie L. Ruiz, 2149-135, P.O. Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959. (22)

Only 4 mos till release, would like to make some new friends. 6'7", 200, medium build, 21 yrs, blonde hair, blue eyes. Will answer all—T.V.'s, T.S., butch, fem, female gays. I love you all. David Greenfield, Box 747—051271, Starke, FL 32091. (22)

19, black hair, green eyes, 140, 5'9". Would like to hear from any one who cares to write. Will answer all letters. L. D. Parrish, 021422, E-54, P.O. Box 221, Raiford, FL 32083. (22)

Young gay caucasian male incarcerated seeks correspondence with gays on the outside and long lasting friendship. Pierre Loyer, 04198-158, P.O. Box 1000, Marion, IL 62959. (22)

organizations

BOSTON GAY CATHOLICS
Dignity/Boston sponsors EXODUS MASS, a liturgy for gay and concerned Catholics every Sunday at Arlington Street Church (Boston), Boylston St. entrance at 5:30 pm. For info. contact Dignity/Boston, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114. Tel. 536-6518. (35)

SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS
Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorentz Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109. (206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

LUTHERANS
ALC, LCA AND Mo. Uniting for justice, love, understanding in our church. Lutherans Concerned (for gay people), Box B-19114A, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

NGTF NEEDS YOU
Join with the largest, fastest growing gay civil rights group in the country! The National Gay Task Force works with a professional staff on media representation, national legislation, information clearinghouse, religious reforms, corporate non-discrimination statements, more! Help support our work — join now. \$15 membership (\$5 limited income) includes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave., Rm. 506, New York, NY 10011.

GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE NJ
—Men and women — Militantly gay — militantly proud — Join us at 176 Kansas St., Hackensack, NJ, every Fri. at 9 p.m. Political action caucus Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. (201) 343-6402.

MONTACHUSETT GAY ALLIANCE
Our group is forming in Fitchburg & there are so many Gay people in this area. We will feature talk, speakers, understanding and gay parties! Come. (23)

The GAY NURSES' ALLIANCE needs your support if you are an RN, LPN/LVN, or student nurse. Basic membership is \$5.00 per year, which includes a subscription to our newsletter. (Contributions greater than \$5.00 are encouraged and appreciated). Many states are in need of coordinators to help organize local chapters. An apathetic nurse misses out on learning and growing experiences. Get involved! For more info, please write: GNA, P.O. Box 530, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA. 02117 (20)

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WORCESTER, church service at 6 Institute Road, 2 p.m. Sundays. Rev. Jos. H. Gilbert, pastor. 756-0730. The 3rd year begins.

Metropolitan Community Church of Boston, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (hymn sing 6:45), 131 Cambridge St., Boston (Old West Church). Edward T. Hougen, pastor. Office 523-7664. All persons are welcome.

COMING TO S.F. BAY AREA?
Stanford Gay People's Union welcomes you. Social hours, rap group, peer counseling, programs, parties. Phone (415) 497-1488; mail to Box 8265, Stanford, CA 94305.

CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING
Men, 40 and older, have problems different from young Gay Activists. Small discussion group forming NYC. Call (212) 242-8112 or write Burdick, Apt. 1C, 270 W. 25th St., NYC, NY 10001.

In New Jersey, the Gay Activist Alliance/Morris County meets every Monday at 8:30 p.m. using facilities of Unitarian Fellowship, Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ. Info: (201) 884-0653; 347-6234.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST GAY CAUCUS OF NEW ENGLAND has been formed. We are an inclusive group of religious liberals who seek to provide opportunities for community building among gay people. We meet Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Arlington St. Church. For more information, contact Bob Wheatly at the UUA Office of Gay Concerns, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108, or (617) 742-2100. (c)

publications

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED
in states other than New York to cover local news. Background and experience not nearly as important as good judgment and ability to write standard news journalism. Still no pay yet. Contact Bruce Gelbert at Gaysweek, 216 W. 18 St., NY, NY 10011. (212) 929-7720. (21)

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FOCUS
A monthly journal of fiction, articles, poetry, book reviews, etc. by, for and about gay women. 1 year subscription (12 issues) \$6. Sample copy 60¢. Always sent in plain envelope. Focus, Box GCN, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. (c)

GAY SCENE — The Picture Homophile Monthly in 8th Year of Publication. News From Everywhere; Movement News; King's Reviews (Stage, Screen, Book & T.V.); D.D.'s Best Bets; Lesbian Life; Articles; Nude Plaything of the Month; Religious News; Personals; and More. Send \$1 for sample copy. \$8.00 for 12 issues (in Plain Envelope) To: REGIMENT, Box 247, Grand Cent. St., NYC 10017.

FOCUS, journal for gay women, needs contributors. If you write short fiction, essays of interest to lesbians, or poetry, please send it to FOCUS, C/O DOB, 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. There is no payment, but it is fun to see your work in print, and you do get free copies of the issues in which your work is published. Include SASE for return of material not accepted for publication. (c)

BOSTON BAR GUIDE

BAMBOO LOUNGE 30 Avery St. Food, Mixed. BOSTON EAGLE 88 Queensberry St. 247-9586 Leather, Men, Thurs. Club Nite, Sunday Brunch 3PM, Movies Mon. & Tues. 8PM CARNIVAL LOUNGE 39 Boylston St. 338-7159 Dancing, Mixed. CHAPS 27 Huntington Ave. 266-7778 Food, Men. CITADEL 22 Avery St. 482-9040 Dancing, Men. CLUB 76 76 Battery March St. 542-3377 Food, Mixed COMMUNITY CLUB 252 Boylston St. 247-9308 Noon to 2AM, 7 days a week. Dancing, Games, Food.	DELIVERY ENTRANCE At The House Restaurant. 12 Wilton St., Allston 783-5701 Men & Women. "It's Different." HARRY'S PLACE 45 Essex St. Dancing, Men. HERBIE'S RAMROD ROOM 12 Carver St. 338-8577 Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 7PM, Thurs. NAPOLEON CLUB 52 Piedmont St. 338-7547 Dancing Fri., Sat., Sun. Men. PARADISE 180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge Talking, Mostly Men, 864-4130 PLAYLAND 21 Essex St. Men (Some Women). 119 MERRIMAC 119 Merrimac St. 523-8960 Dancing, Men, Tues.-Thurs. Buffet 9-11PM RAINBOW ROOM 15 Lansdowne St. Disco Dancing, Men.	SAINTS (Call 354-8807) Women. SOMEWHERE 295 Franklin St. 423-7730 Disco Dancing, Mixed, Sunday Brunch 12-2PM. SPORTER'S CAFE 228 Cambridge St. Food, Men, Saturday Brunch 5PM, Movies Mon., 3PM, Sunday Brunch 3PM. STYX 20 Blagden St. 247-3910 Disco Dancing, Men. THE SHED 272 Huntington Ave. Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 4PM. TOGETHER 110 Boylston St. Disco Dancing, Mixed. 1270 1270 Boylston St. 261-1257 Disco Dancing, Mixed (Mostly Men). TWELVE CARVER 12 Carver St. Men.
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Quick Gay Guide

BOSTON AREA (Area Code 617)

Access (Cambridge Hotline)	661-3900
Am Tikva	524-1890, 628-3986
Cambridge Gay Political Caucus, P.O. Box 218, E. Cambridge 02141	491-0968
Cambridge Women's Center	354-8807
Charles Street Meetinghouse	523-1081, 354-8807
Civil Liberties Union of Mass.	742-8020
Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02138	661-3633
Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114	536-6518
Elaine Noble (Rep.)	727-2584
Evangelicals Concerned	894-3970
Fag Rag	536-9826
Fenway Community Health Center	267-7573
Fengay, c/o Tom Nyland	267-1066
Gay Academic Union of New England, P.O. Box 212, Boston 02101	492-3353
Gay AlAnon, Greater Boston	471-6884
Gay Business Ass'n (Job Bank), 102 Charles St., Boston MA 02114 Suite 129	739-2200
Gay Community News	426-4469
Gay Educational Service (Human Achievement Foundation), P.O. Box 398, Allston 02134	277-2484
Gay Hotline 3-12pm, Mon.-Fri.)	426-9371
Gay Legislation, P.O. Box 8841, JFK Station, Boston 02114,	
73 Tremont St., Rm 224	742-4811
Gay Men's Center, 718 Beacon St.	247-7312
Gay Nurses' Alliance-East, P.O. Box 530, Back Bay Annex, Boston 02117	
Gay People of UMass/Boston	287-1900 (X2396)
Gay Professional Women's Assn., Box 308, Boston U. Sta., Boston 02215	
Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC), c/o GCN Box 8000	
Gay Speakers Bureau, P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107	354-0133
Gay Way Radio (WBUR, 90.9FM)	353-2790
Gay Youth Advocates, 70 Charles St.	227-8587
Gender Identity Service	864-8181
Good Gay Poets	536-9826
Harvard-Radcliffe Gay Student Assn.	498-2014
Homophile Community Health Service	542-5188
Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208	262-3057
Janus Counseling for Lesbians, 21 Bay St., Cambridge	661-2537
Lambda of Middlesex, P.O. 1165, Framingham, MA 01701.	
Nites and weekends	877-8550
Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center	354-8807
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People	536-3788
Massachusetts Feminist Federal Credit Union, 186 1/2 Hampshire St., Cambridge	661-0450
Metropolitan Community Church	523-7664
MIT Homophile League, rm 50-306	253-5440
National Lawyers Guild, 595 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02139	661-8898, 661-6358

National Organization for Women	267-6160
New Words Bookstore	876-5310
Northeastern Gay Student Org., c/o Student Activities Office, 255 Eli Ctr.	
Older and Other Gays, c/o GCN, Box 1500, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108	
Outreach Foundation for crossdressers, transgenderists and gender dysthorics, 102 Charles St., Suite 433, Boston 02114	
Project Lambda	523-0368
Project Place	267-9150
Sexual Health centers of N.E., Inc. 739 Boylston St., Boston 02116	266-3444
Fr. Paul Shanley (Exodus Center)	333-0146
Tufts Gay Community, c/o Student Activities Office, Medford 02155	
Unitarian Universalists Office of Gay Concerns, 25 Beacon St., Boston 02108	742-2100
Women's Alcoholism Program, 1348 Cambridge St., Cambridge 02139	661-1316
Women's Community Health in Cambridge	547-2302

EASTERN MASS. (Area Code 617)

Dignity Merrimack Valley	
P.O. Box 348, Lowell 08853	
Everywoman's Center, Box 949, 14 Center St., Provincetown 02657 (4-6pm)	
Lesbian Support Group, Mercy Otis Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St., Hyannis 02601	771-6739
Martha's Vineyard Gay Group	627-5370
Montachusets Gay Alliance	
Box 262, Fitchburg 01420	342-5963
New Bedford Women's Clinic	999-1570
Provincetown 24-Hour Drop-in Center	487-0387
Survival Crisis Line	471-7100

WESTERN MASS. (Area Code 413)

Berkshire Community Gay Coalition, Box 493, Pittsfield 01201	528-9433
Common Women Club, 78 Masonic St., Northampton 01060	584-4580
Everywomen's Center, Amherst	545-0883
Gaybreak Radio (WMUA-FM, 91.9)	545-2876
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst	545-3438
Lesbian Union, 9th floor, Campus Center, UMass, Amherst 01003	
People's Gay Alliance, RSO 368 Student Union, UMass, Amherst, 1002	545-0154
Southwest Women's Center	545-0626
Springfield Gay Alliance	732-9315
Together, Box 427, Forest Park Sta., Springfield 01108	
Valley Women's Center, Northampton	586-2011

CONNECTICUT (Area Code 203)

"Come Out Tonight," Box WYBC/Yale Station, New Haven 06520	
CT Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	522-5575
Dignity/New Haven, P.O. Box 3712, Amith Sta., New Haven 06525	
East Conn. Gay Alliance, Norwich	889-7530
George W. Henry Foundation, Hartford	522-2646
Gay Alliance at Yale, Box 2031, Yale Station, New Haven 06520	436-8945
Gay phone counseling (eves.), New Haven	436-8945

Gay Switchboard	522-5575
Gay Women's Collective, Women's Center, U-118, University of CT, Storrs 06268	486-4738
Hartford Gay Counseling	522-5575, 232-5110
Institute of Social Ethics/National Gay Archives, 1 Gold St., Suite 22B, Hartford 06103	547-1281
Kalos/Gay Liberation, Hartford	568-2656
MCC/Hartford	232-5110, 522-5575
New Haven Lesbian Rap, 148 Orange St., New Haven	436-0272
The Church of the Eternal Flame Universal	527-2656
UConn Gay Alliance, 211 Student Union, U of CT, Storrs 06268	
Yalesbians, Box 2031, Yale Station, New Haven 06520	436-8945
Wesleyan Gay Alliance	635-3035

RHODE ISLAND (Area Code 401)

Brown University Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Waterman Ave., Providence 02912	
Office hours: Noon-1pm weekdays	863-3062
Dignity/Providence, Box 2231, Pawtucket 02861	
Gay Help Line	751-3322
Gay Community Services of R.I., 55 Eddy St., rm 306	
Gay Women of Brown, c/o Sarah Doyle, Women's Center, 186 Meeting St., Providence, 02912	863-2189
Integrity, Box 71, Annex Sta., Providence 02801	
MCC/Providence, 134 Matthewson St.	751-6023
MCC Innovative Ministry (terminally ill, aged and handicapped), Rev. Michael Nordstrom	272-8482
Providence Gay Group of AA	231-5853

MAINE (Area Code 207)

CMGA, Box 2242, Augusta 04330	
Confidential Drug and Alcohol Rap Group, Box 4542, Portland 04112	
Gay People's Alliance, 92 Bedford St.	773-2981
University of Maine, Portland 04103	ext. 535
Growing...Sober and Gay, Box 893, Waterville 04901	
Maine Freewoman's Herald, 193 Middle St., 3rd floor, Portland 04111	774-6071
Maine Gay Task Force, Box 4542, Portland 04112	773-5530
Maine Lesbian Feminists, Box 125, Belfast 04915	
Mainly Gay, Box 4542, Portland 04112	773-5530
The Wilde-Steln Club, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono 04473	

NEW HAMPSHIRE (Area Code 603)

MCC-Extension, 292 State St., Portsmouth 03801	382-4678
Nashua Area Gays	673-5315
NH Lambda, Box 1043, Concord 03301	228-8542
Northwood Women's Group, G. Ball, Box 273, RFD 1, Manchester 03104	
NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force, 4 Valentine Hill Rd., Durham 02834	

VERMONT (Area Code 802)

Counseling-Support for Gay Women, c/o Susan Katz, South VT Women's Health Center, 187 N. Main St., Rutland, VT 05701	775-1518
Gay Student Union, Univ. of VT, Burlington 05401, M-F, 7-9 pm	656-4173
Women's Center, 182 Main St., Burlington 05401	863-1236

NEW YORK (STATE)

Affirmation (Unitarian Universalist Gay Caucus), 34 Chestnut Rd., Delmar 12054	
Capital District Gay Community Center (7-11pm), 332 Hudson Ave., Albany 12210	(518)462-6138
Capital District Gay Political Caucus, Box 131, Albany 12201	(518)462-6138
Dignity/Integrity/Rochester	
42 Tyler House, 17 So. Fitzhugh St., Rochester 14614	(716) 232-6521
Empty Closet Collective, 1255 University Ave., Rochester 14607	(716) 271-6750
Gay Alliance of The Genesee Valley, Inc., 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester 14614	(716) 244-8640 or 244-9030
Gay Brotherhood of Rochester, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester	(716) 244-8640
Gay Liberation Front, U. of R., Wilson Commons, Rochester 14607	(716) 275-6181
Gay Task Force, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester (Mon. 7pm)	(716) 244-8640 or 244-9030
Hamilton-Kirkland Gay Alliance, Box 80, Hamilton College, Clinton 13323	
Lambda Univ., Box 131, Albany 12201	(518)462-6138

Lesbian Resource Center, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester 14607	(716)244-9030
NY State Coalition of Gay Organizations, Box 131, Albany 12201	(518)462-6138
Stonewall Society, Poughkeepsie	(914)473-3857

NEW YORK (CITY) (Area Code 212)

Ass'n of Gay Social Workers, c/o Ron Ginsberg, 345 W. 21st St., apt. 1-A	234-8683
Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 W. 14th St., 10004	242-6616
Gay People at Columbia, Columbia U., 10027	280-2574
Gay Teacher's Association, 204 Lincoln Pl., Brooklyn 11217	789-8176/499-1060
Gay Switchboard, Box 805, Madison Sq. Sta., 10010	777-1800
The Glines, 260 W. Broadway	925-2619
Lambda Legal Defense, P.O. Box 5448, Grand Central Sta., 10017	758-1905
Lesbian Herstory Archives, P.O. Box 1258, 10001	
Lesbian Switchboard	741-2610
MCC/NY, 201 W. 13th St. 10011	242-1212
National Coalition of Gay Activists, P.O. Box A-711, Grand Central Sta., 10017	
National Gay Task Force, 80 Fifth Ave., rm 506	741-1010
Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop, 15 Christopher St.	255-8097
Tri-base Collective	533-4492
West Side Discussion Group, 37 Ninth Ave.	675-0143

calendar

28 mon

Cambridge — Boston chapter of NOW general meeting on "The Subtleties of Oppression: Women and Advertising/Women at Work" 8 pm, 99 Bishop Allen Dr.

Allston — 'Coming Out,' Course I. Meet Lesbian Women and Gay Men. Share and learn with others. Gay Education Service. 277-2484.

Williamstown, MA — Williams Gay Support Organization will sponsor a lecture by Bruce Voeller, Co-executive Director of the National Gay Task Force and Ginny Vida, Media Director for NGTF. 8 pm, Jesup Auditorium, Williams College.

1 thurs

NYC — Gay Women's Alternative at Universalist Church sponsors an evening of SOCIODRAMA with Clare Coss from the Institute of Human Identity. Also, The Homosexual and Religious Relevancy, a panel discussion with Subdeacon Miki of the Church of the Beloved Disciple and Mike Koonsman, founder of Integrity.

New York City — Association of Gay Social Workers will hold their meeting at 8 pm, 156 Prince St., Info. (212) 777-7697.

Boston — Seminar: Women, Ethnicity & Counseling — 8 week seminar beginning. For info call Oliva at Womanspace, a feminist therapy collective, 267-7992.

Boston — Erotic magazine night sponsored by the Viking Literary Guild. Erotic magazines for your reading pleasure at Herbie's Ramrod Room, 10pm.

2 fri

New York City — Gay people at Columbia monthly dance. 304 Earl Hall Center, 117th St. East on Broadway, Columbia Univ. Campus. \$2.50 general adm. 9 pm to 2 am.

Boston — Body, Mind & Spirit — a retreat weekend for women is being held on Dec. 2, 3, 4, in Acton, Maine. Info. WE-ARE 277-5944.

Boston — Women's weekend — a workshop focusing on self-awareness and relationships with others. Info. Alice or Nancy at Womanspace, 267-7992.

Boston — H. Harkness Flagler Birthday Celebration (Turn of the century gay philanthropist), 8 pm, 266 El Center, Northeastern Univ., by Northeastern Gay Students Org., everyone invited, free refreshments.

Cambridge — Center Screen presents a Boston area premiere of Tom Joslin's "Black Star, Autobiography of a Close Friend." 7:30 & 9:30, Carpenter Ctr. For Visual Arts, Harvard Union. \$2 admission. 253-7620.

Somerville — Holiday Auction and Bazaar sponsored by Somerville Women's Center, 10 pm to 5 pm at Somerville Multi-Service Center, 1 Summer St., Union Sq. Crafts, holiday decorations, baked goods, rummage sale and auction. Everyone welcome, child care provided. Info. 625-4488.

Cambridge — Book Bazaar by The Second Wave, 10 am to 6 pm, at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. near Harvard Sq. New and used books, records, used clothing, refreshments.

4 sun

NYC — West Side Discussion Group, will present a special program devoted to gay men and women on film.

The program will also feature a surprise featurette by Lenny Bruce. \$2. For info. (212) 675-0143.

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